

COLUSA COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

Minutes of Public Meeting

April 30, 2001

The meeting of the Colusa County Children and Families Commission was called to order at 4:05 p.m. in the Colusa Library, 738 Market Street, Colusa, California. Commissioners Delores Gomez, Barbara Hankins, Nolan Gonzales, Nancy Parriott and Christy Scofield were present, constituting a quorum.

Items discussed in accordance with the publicly posted agenda were as follows:

1. Public comment and unscheduled matters

Commissioner Scofield introduced Olga Cain and Caroline Roady and explained that this Commission meeting would be a special meeting for the Commissioners to vote on 2000-01 RFA Funding awards and invited public comment on any items.

Commissioner Scofield reviewed Colusa County Children and Families Commission Funding Projections and explained that 1998-99 Proposition 10 funding was \$156,275, 1999-00 funding was the first full year of funding totaling \$320,182 and was estimated to represent top dollar funding as future funding is expected to decline. The decline in funding will occur gradually as smoking declines due to tobacco education and awareness, as a desired result from promoting tobacco and smoking cessation in California. Currently 2000-01 funding totals \$177,296 and is estimated at \$302,296. Commissioner Scofield said that she wanted to share this information so that everyone would understand the budget the Commission must work within as funding decisions are made. She further added that along with the monthly funding from Proposition 10 special funding had been allocated to some rural counties with smaller budgets and tagged for a specific purpose. Colusa is a small population county and qualified as one of the rural counties that received a special one time funding allocations from the California Children and Families Commission at the state level. Special funding in 1999-00 consisted of a \$50,000 start up allocation to be used by each county to help with getting a Strategic Plan in place. Without the adoption of a Strategic Plan counties could not receive or spend any Proposition 10 funding. In 2000-01 Colusa County received \$108,133 to assist with administrative costs to hire staff and set up an office for county commissions. Again, this special allocation was given to counties who received less than two million dollars a year in Proposition 10 funding. In 2000-01 a special travel funding was given to small population counties to assure fair representation at meeting around the state. Commissioner Scofield explained that the State Commission wanted to be sure that all counties were represented by Proposition 10 and not just those counties with larger budgets. Commissioner Scofield reiterated that the Commission had budgeted \$400,000 for this first round of funding and would like to maintain a sustaining reserve, operating pool and operating reserve to assure that funding decisions will be maintained. Commissioner Gomez added that the Commission has discussed a round of mini grants and would like to reserve some budget to target assistance for home daycare providers in the county. Commissioner Scofield concluded that total funding from the state to date is only \$653,753, and may limit what the Commission wants to accomplish.

Commissioner Scofield stated that the Commission discussed setting a precedent in funding playground improvement projects and set a maximum of \$25,000 per project. This motion is recorded on page three of the February 13, 2001 Commission meeting minutes. She added that

funding from the Commission is to target playground improvement and equipment for social, emotional and physical development of children zero to five years, and to create a place in the community where families could gather.

Ms. Lauppe asked if all Commissioners would be able to attend the “Commissioner’s Coffee” sponsored by Sutter County at the YMCA, 853 Plumas Street, Yuba City from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on May 3, 2001. Commissioner Hankins said that she will not be able to attend the morning session but may be able to attend the lunch that will follow. Commissioner Parriott, Gomez and Gonzales said that they would be able to attend. Ms. Lauppe added that Deb Coulter had arranged for a telephone at that meeting site to connect Commissioners to the teleconference on Transportation scheduled at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners will arrive early for that teleconference.

2. Approval of Project Funding for 2000-2001 RFA

Proposals were reviewed. Commissioner Hankins moved to approve funding for 2000-2001 RFA projects with amounts and terms specified as amended by the Commission with stipulations; motion seconded by Commissioner Gomez. The motion passed by voice vote (4/0) with one abstention.

- Williams Elementary School, Maxwell Elementary School and Grand Island School playground projects will all be funded at \$25,000 to be used for playground improvements and equipment for zero to five years.
- Colusa County Library Mobile Literacy Lab Project will be funded at \$28,000 to assist with startup costs on the van and books for family libraries. This will be one time funding at this time. Future projects will be considered as new proposals.
- Colusa County Office of Education/Children’s Services will be funded at \$201,000 for the first year of the Family Start program. Future second and third year funding will depend on continued Proposition 10 funding to the Commission and success of the program as measured by quarterly progress reports and evaluations.

Discussion: Commissioner Scofield explained that Kathy Davidson was requested to meet for a proposers interview to discuss a smaller funding amount and how that would affect the success of the Family Start program. Information from that question and answer interview is attached. Commissioner Hankins added that she had requested the interview and that Commissioner Scofield and Ms. Lauppe attended the meeting and conducted the interview with Ms. Davidson. Commissioner Scofield stated that fewer families will be served with the smaller grant and that this grant was to fund the first year of the project. With this first year of funding the Commission discussed that serving fewer families with a quality program was preferable to not funding the project at all. She added that funds were limited as discussed at the opening of the meeting. Future second and third year funding will be discussed at the time of contract negotiation.

Ms. Roady asked if the agency would be required to write a full proposal to be considered for future years of funding and be considered in a competitive bid process. Commissioner Scofield stated that the answer was no and that consideration for future funding would be contingent upon of the success of the program and continued funding for the Commission through Proposition 10 that was adequate to fund the Family Start project and allow adequate funding to follow the Commission budget. She added that the Commission strongly recommends funding for some mini grants. Ms. Roady asked how agencies would report to the Commission. Commissioner Scofield explained that

evaluation was part of the proposal and would be part of the contract agreement. It will all be spelled out before the project begins. She added that grantees will receive money July 1, 2001 and that contract agreements will be in place before money is released. Ms. Lauppe added that she is working on an evaluation sub-committee. That committee is working with State Commission staff to develop the evaluation form that will be used by the state to collect information on all program providers in each county.

- Colusa County Department of Health and Human Services will be funded at \$89,140 for first year funding of the HUGS program. Future second and third year funding will depend on continued Proposition 10 funding to the Commission and success of the program as measured by quarterly progress reports and evaluations.
- Child Abuse Prevention Council will be funded at \$1,000 to provide a speaker for a workshop on the “Effects of Domestic Violence on Children” and \$20,000 for funds for an RFP for a year round contract position to assist Mandated Reporter Training and Child Assault Prevention Program. This is first year funding for the program. Future second and third year funding will depend on continued Proposition 10 funding to the Commission and success of the program as measured by quarterly progress reports and evaluations.

Ms. Cain asked what would happen to these programs if people decide not to smoke. She asked where the money would come from to help these programs keep going. Ms. Lauppe explained that part of the proposal focused on how each program needed to build in steps leading to sustainability after the initial start up with Proposition 10 funds. This was done because funding is expected to decrease in future years.

Commissioner Hankins stated that she wanted to compliment all the projects and is excited about these programs.

Commissioner Scofield said that she is excited about all these programs and would like to fund all the requests for the home visitation programs, however did not want any program to take all the funds. Commissioner Gomez added that funds for mini grants would help with smaller projects needed to improve home daycare sites.

3. Adjournment

Commissioner Scofield asked for final announcements and comments.

Commissioner Hankins announced that Colusans for Youth will present a program on Youth and The Community at the Friendship Hall located in the Trinity United Methodist Church in Colusa on May 3, 2001. She encourages everyone to attend and learn about Youth and Asset Development.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2001 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Morse Conference Room at the Colusa Library, 738 Market Street, Colusa.

Minutes prepared by Charlette Lauppe, Executive Director to the Commission.

Attachment A: Funding Projections

Attachment B: Minutes of February 13, 2001 Commission Meeting

Attachment C: Proposer Interview Notes, April 24, 2001